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which once created seized every opportunity that the government gave to raise opposition to it. The Morley-Minto reforms are ably analyzed and criticized, and their failure to satisfy Indian demands which grew apace with every concession to them. The last half of the book shows how the Great War led to the Indian Reforms Bill, and makes clear why these reforms were initiated under the most unfavorable circumstances. Perhaps no other person could have told with such sympathy the story of Mr. Gandhi's fight against the introduction of these reforms, the elections which preceded the birth of an Indian Parliament, and the difficulties in its path. The concluding chapters on the economic factors and the Indian problem as a world problem are very suggestive. On the whole few men can write of contemporary history with as great impartiality as Sir Valentine Chirol.

C. H. VAN TYNE.

#### BOOKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY

*New Viewpoints in American History.* By ARTHUR MEIER SCHLESINGER, Professor of History in the University of Iowa. (New York: Macmillan Company. 1922. Pp. xi, 299. \$2.40.)

PROFESSOR SCHLESINGER purposed in his heart "to bring together and summarize, in non-technical language, some of the results of the researches of the present era of historical study". He succeeded admirably, even to the "non-technical language". His story flows easily, smoothly, with here and there a refreshing eddy of humor, as, for example, his likening of the two great parties to "two armies that have been sitting opposite each other for so long a time that they have forgotten the original cause of their quarrel".

As the author suggests in his "Foreword", most of his chapters deal with viewpoints not new to historical scholars. On geographic factors he follows Semple, Brigham, and others; on the influence of the frontier, Turner and Paxson; on economic influences, Beard and his confederates. In the chapter on the American Revolution he has an easy mastery due to his own valuable contribution to the study of that period, and to the work of such scholars as Andrews, Osgood, and Beer. While these chapters deal with facts and viewpoints familiar to most historical scholars, the author's summaries and interpretations will be suggestive to his professional confrères, and of much enlightenment to the general reader.

Fresher to the hardened historian are the chapters on the Rôle of Women, the State Rights Fetish, the Foundations of the Modern Era, and the Riddle of the Parties.

The most resonant and recurring note in the volume is that of economic influences, whether in the Revolution, the making of the Constitution, the Jacksonian period, or the "Modern Era". He does

not blink the facts nor the portents. Yet this is no doctrinaire history, no marshalling of hand-picked data for an Armageddon of social forces. He has come through the fires of economic determinism with even temper. He can discern some good in both conservatives and radicals—and some bad (p. 108). He seems to be a progressive with one foot on the brake-pedal.

The book is hard to find fault with, but reviewers must try. In his chapter on Geographic Factors, an interesting section might have been added on soil and climatic influences, as propounded by Ellsworth Huntington and others of the newer school of geographers. American isolation has not merely "ceased to exist" (p. 29), but never did exist. The fact that by the Constitution "the separate states were permitted to continue to restrict the franchise as they chose" is unconvincing evidence of an attempt by aristocrats to 'keep the plain people in a subordinate place' (p. 81). In the Federal Convention that section of the Constitution (Art. I, sec. 2 of the final draft) was defended in the name of popular government, and adopted in the face of opposition from the "aristocrats" who wished to restrict the franchise to freeholders. (See Farrand, *Records of Federal Convention*, II. 201-206.) In the light of the Convention debates, and of the later history of the franchise, it would be fairer to say that the separate states were left free to enlarge the franchise as they chose.

These are not serious criticisms. The critic's sickle cut a meagre harvest—only enough to emphasize the general reliability and sanity of the book.

The chapter bibliographies are good above the ordinary. They are crisp, critical essays on recent tendencies in American historical research and writing. The index is very full, covering even the bibliographers. Blessed are the indexers!

R. W. KELSEY.

*George Bryan and the Constitution of Pennsylvania, 1731-1791.* By BURTON ALVA KONKLE. (Philadelphia: William J. Campbell. 1922. Pp. viii, 381. \$4.00.)

PENNSYLVANIA has been fortunate in her historians. Among others Sharpless, Shepherd, Watson, and Westcott have pictured different phases of her history, all helpful to those who would understand the Quaker Colony, and Mr. Konkle, in his trilogy comprising the lives of David Lloyd, George Bryan, and James Wilson, has well supplemented the work of his predecessors. Biography seems to appeal to the author and it has given a vigor to his words which a less personal record would hardly furnish. No careful reader can fail to see the importance of George Bryan to the colony of his adoption; the danger is that the hasty reader will neglect the no less vital influence exercised by his fellow-citizens, great and small, or disregard the close connection be-